

"PERFINS"

CHRONICLE OF THE PERFINS CLUB

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PATTERNS AND ISSUES

Warren Travell

Every trade, profession and sport has had to establish its own set of terms with their special meanings and the collection of Perfins, being a new pastime, is no exception to the general rule or custom. So it seems advisable that a few more definitions be established in addition to those already given.

How about using "pattern" to denote the punching—the arrangement of holes in a perfin, whether such arrangement comprise letters, numbers, or design?

The meaning of "issue" in connection with stamps is well understood by everybody. Some of us collect only "types"—and require only one or two of each "type" to fill our requirements while others, including the writer, like to see in our albums all the different "issues" of a type. Such a collection permits the exercise of artistic ability in the arrangement of stamps on each page and results in a collection which is much more attractive to the eye than is one consisting of types only.

In collecting issues of Perfin types the writer has followed the lead established by Hoover Brothers in their catalog of precancels. They pay attention to separation perforations but disregard all watermarks, shades and other minor differences. However one should not follow the Hoover lead so far as to fuss over inverts, obverts, diagonals, sideways up, sideways down, doubles, etc., as life is too short to spend time over all these exhibitions of carelessness on the part of user's office-boys.

Without such "varieties," there are enough straight "issues" to satisfy the most rapacious collector.

PERFIN DIE MANUFACTURERS

"There have been several Die makers in this country (England) in the past, especially makers of hand punches, but as far as I know there is only one firm now, viz the original one who invented the machine, J. Sloper & Co.—Charles Bein.

Mrs. C. Van Vranken, R.F.D. 2, Box 37, Gloversville, N. Y. has sent a box of perfins many of which have been or will be distributed to members. She is a shut-in and collects post cards and buttons. She would appreciate each one sending her a few buttons. Here's your chance to help a shut-in.

CORRECTION—Mr. Hayward mentioned in May issue writes that he is a dealer and has very few perfins on cover.

PERFIN LITERATURE

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE Official Stamps, an article in South African Philatelist, November 1946, deals with an official perforation of the Cape Government Printing & Stationery Dept., consisting of 11 round holes in the form of 2 triangles with apex in common.

STAMPS PERFORATED with letter or device on official authority and commonly known to collectors as **PERFORATED OFFICIALS** (including some for public use), a checklist (illustrated) compiled and collated by (the late) Albert H. Haris and published in the Stamp Collectors Annual, 1944.

SPIFS by Charles Bein, West-End Philatelist, July 1944. A longer article, same author, same journal, October 1944. Article continued in Jan-May issue 1945 and Oct-Dec., 1945. Final chapter is expected to appear sometime this year.

Do You Buy, Swap, or Exchange?

If so, write the secretary. He maintains a service to put persons with perfins in contact with members who want them. No charge.

SEND FOR A SELECTION today. Perfins, one cent each, also precancels of all kinds. Wallace Hilborn, 368 Laurel Avenue, Highland Park, Illinois. 13-6

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TYPES, DESIGNS, & VARIETIES

Warren Travell

In working up the classification for Perfins, it was necessary to find a word to designate such punching as comprised neither letters nor numbers—and "design" which is defined as an arrangement of forms, seemed to fill the bill and was accordingly adopted.

Then it was equally necessary to find a word to designate a punching in general, whatever it is, whether made up of letters, a number, a design, or any combination of these. Various alternatives were considered—symbol, emblem, punching, etc. and "type" which is defined as an emblem or symbol, was finally chosen. There still remains need for a name to denote the modifications of a "type", for use by branch offices. Usually these changes in a type are made by the punching of extra holes although sometimes the distinction is effected by slight changes in the shape, size or position of letters. It is now suggested that "variety" be used to denote such a modification of a type.

So then we have:

PERFIN, a stamp with punched holes, (other than separation perforations.)

Classes of Perfins,

Postal types, used as protection against theft.

United States

Foreign

Revenue Cancellations

Government Use.

TYPE, a perfin having punched holes
DESIGN, a type with neither letters, nor a number, or, that part of a punching which is neither letters, figures nor extra holes.

TYPES may be

Letters

Numbers

Designs

Combination of letters & number

Combination of letters & design

Combination of number & design

VARIETIES are modifications of "types", as used by branch offices—usually made by the punching of extra holes.

NOTE—If any member can suggest an improvement on these expressions, let him speak up at once or forever after hold his peace.

Get one new member in '47!